

NPDES Program



The National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program is a congressionally mandated program under the Clean Water Act. The program is a comprehensive two-phased national program for addressing the non-agricultural sources of storm water discharges that adversely affect water quality. The program is implemented locally through the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). DEQ issues permits to applicable entities which participate in and/or oversee activities which are recognized as potential sources of pollutants. Municipal Separate Storm Sewers Systems (MS4), Industrial Activities and Construction Activities all potentially require an NPDES permit.

The City of West Linn obtained a permit under Phase 1 of the NPDES program in 1995. The City operates under a MS4 system which means that all storm water is collected and conveyed in a storm sewer system separate from the sanitary sewer system. Under Phase 1 of the federal program only MS4 systems serving a population of 100,000 or larger were required to obtain a permit. Although this City of West Linn was not subject to Phase 1 requirements, the City of West Linn took a progressive stance towards water quality and chose to comply with the NPDES permit as a co-applicant of Clackamas County.

As part of the permit the City has developed a Storm Water Management Plan that outlines Best Management Practices (BMPs) that the City will implement to improve and conserve water quality, as well as, prevent harmful pollutants from contaminating storm water runoff and entering the MS4. The nuts and bolts of this program include identification of major outfalls and estimating pollutant loadings; detecting and eliminating non-storm water discharges to the MS4; reduction of pollutants in runoff from industrial, commercial and residential areas; control storm water discharges from new development & redevelopment and regular maintenance of the public storm water collection/ treatments systems.

Compliance is essentially achieved by implementing an approved Storm Water Management Plan. Each permit holder is required to report annually the procedures, tasks and best management practices achieved that benefit water quality.

The City of West Linn submitted their Phase 1 MS4 NPDES permit renewal package, including an updated Stormwater Management Plan (2008), to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on September 2, 2008. As part of the DEQ review process, DEQ has requested that the City post their permit renewal package and any supporting documentation or links to supporting documentation that may assist in DEQ's review. The items listed/provided below are referenced in the City's permit renewal package. As a result of DEQ's review of the City's permit renewal package and the subsequent Phase 1 MS4 NPDES permit negotiations, the City's Stormwater Management Plan may be further modified, and the City of West Linn would provide opportunity for public review and comment on the proposed modifications in accordance with DEQ's schedule.

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Published on City of West Linn Oregon Official Website (<http://westlinnoregon.gov>)

Until DEQ's approval of the City's permit renewal package including their updated Stormwater Management Plan, the City is still implementing their stormwater program under their 2006 Stormwater Management Plan.

Links to supporting documentation:

West Linn Building Code Standards-

<http://westlinnoregon.gov/publicworks/2-building-code-standards>

West Linn Surface Water Management Plan-

<http://westlinnoregon.gov/publicworks/surface-water-master-plan>

West Linn Community Development Code-

<http://westlinnoregon.gov/planning/community-development-code-cdc>

Supporting Documents

 [07-08 NPDES REPORT.pdf](#)

 [ACWA Rangers Memo 2005.pdf](#)

 [ACWA Trends Memo 10-26-07.pdf](#)

 [City of Portland IPM.pdf](#)

 [Clackamas Monitoring Plan revised 12-9-08.pdf](#)

 [DEQ Final Guidelines for Chlorinated Water Discharges.pdf](#)

 [Qualitative Assessment of Changes in Pollutant Loads Strecker and Austin 7-7-05.pdf](#)

 [West Linn IER 5-1-06.pdf](#)

 [West Linn NPDES MS4 Permit Renewal 5-7-09.pdf](#)

- [Public Works](#)

Source URL (retrieved on 2010-05-28 04:56): <http://westlinnoregon.gov/publicworks/npdes-program>